

SSI TALKING POINTS

HOUSE
REPUBLICAN
CONFERENCE

★ GOP.GOV ★ 109TH Congress ★

DEBORAH PRYCE, CHAIRMAN

Courtesy: House Committee on Ways and Means

Improvements to Supplemental Security Income **Lump Sum Payments**

Eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is determined through a complicated application process that can take months and even years to complete. Once a person is eligible, benefits are paid back to the time of the initial application. Current law requires lump sum payments exceeding \$7200 (12 months of maximum benefits) to be paid out in three installments.

Is Congress Reducing SSI Benefits?

- No, Congress is proposing a reasonable technical change to how lump sum payments are distributed.
- SSI includes a resource limit that makes individuals ineligible for monthly SSI benefits if they have more than \$2,000 in savings or resources and therefore, recipients who receive large lump sum payments are forced to quickly spend down those payments to remain eligible for SSI benefits.
- The Budget Reduction Act provides that lump sum payments exceeding \$1800 (3 months of maximum benefits) be paid out in installments to prevent recipients from having to spend down their resources.